

**QUESTIONS FOR MICHIGAN TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF CONTROL**

1. What goals would you like to achieve during your time on the board?
2. Over the last 15 or 20 years it seems that all state universities have been expanding programs to try to offer everything to everyone. Do you think this is a good idea?
3. Governor Granholm recently proposed giving additional funds from the federal economic stimulus package to universities and community colleges that hold the line on tuition. Do you support this proposal?
4. Under what circumstances would you vote to increase tuition at your school?
5. Do you think your university has done a good job of controlling costs? Where would you find additional cost savings?
6. If Michigan Technological University is facing a budget deficit, what areas would you look to first to make cuts? Please list several areas where the University has already made cuts or become more efficient?
7. What type of outcomes should the university measure to determine if it is being successful? Does your university currently do anything like this?
8. What do you think about basing future state appropriations for universities on some kind of past performance outcome measurement?
9. What is your position on the importance of state universities as authorizers of charter public schools?
10. In which areas of technological research does your university specialize? How effective is your school at commercializing this research to help grow the state's economy?
11. Do you think that K-12 institutions are doing a good job of preparing students for college? Why?
12. What is the relationship that your school maintains with its surrounding community?

1. What goals would you like to achieve during your time on the board?

I would like to be able to say that I was part of a team that sustained the excellent academic and research program of the University; continued a process to evaluate what new programs the University should have invested for the future; did all we could to provide a first class academic and culturally rich program for our students; and worked to have the financial resources to accomplish these goals through sound stewardship of our resources.

2. Over the last 15 or 20 years it seems that all state universities have been expanding programs to try to offer everything to everyone. Do you think this is a good idea?

Michigan Tech has remained committed to its core program of science, technology, engineering and math. The new world economy does demand that our graduates have a well rounded education beyond the core major and that requires the universities to expand offering to meet these demands.

3. Governor Granholm recently proposed giving additional funds from the federal economic stimulus package to universities and community colleges that hold the line on tuition. Do you support this proposal?

Yes

4. Under what circumstances would you vote to increase tuition at your school?

I would only look at passing on increased cost to students if our analysis indicated that the programs we were offering students could not be maintained. This should only be considered after factoring in the review of our spending, anticipated revenue for the year along with increase cost. It should be done with great care and caution.

5. Do you think your university has done a good job of controlling costs? Where would you find additional cost savings?

I am assuming that Michigan Technological University annually continues to review how they can control cost and provide programs and services. As a former K-12 school teacher and administrator, we were always looking for ways to cut cost and deliver programs. I assume MTU does the same. The University continues to provide a high quality graduate with a high placement rate. That probably speaks to the discipline of the budget process – a quality product living within available resources. As a new board member I intend to become familiar with the University finances.

6. If Michigan Technological University is facing a budget deficit, what areas would you look to first to make cuts? Please list several areas where the University has already made cuts or become more efficient?

I haven't attended a meeting of the Board nor have I met with the Administration to discuss this issue. I am reluctant to offer specific opinions without having data. I would first look at operational cost in terms of energy, maintenance, capital outlay, etc. Secondly I would look at administrative cost; thirdly equipment and last academic faculty and university staff.

Research universities have some greater financial demands because of higher cost for equipment, labs and security.

7. What type of outcome should the university measure to determine it is being successful? Does your university currently do anything like this?

Placement of graduates is one indicator of outcome. I see references to high placement of graduates in the materials I have reviewed so I am assuming a tracking system is in place. I would like to hear about other possible models that might be used in post secondary education.

8. What do you think about basing future state appropriations for universities on some kind of past performance outcome measurement?

It has merit as long as those indicators are identified and quantifiable.

9. What is your position on the importance of state universities as authorizers of charter public schools?

Charter Schools exist and they should be held to high standard and accountable to those standards.

10. In which areas of technological research does your university specialize? How effective is your school at commercializing this research to help grow the state's economy?

Michigan Tech is a great research University that is recognized and identified nationally by ranking and survey organizations. They have quality programs in many fields of engineering, computer science, physics, bio-medical forestry, cognitive learning and other fields. I hope to become a more informed Board member about the unique programs of the university.

11. Do you think K-12 institutions are doing a good job of preparing students for college? Why?

Some of our K-12 schools are doing a better job than others. Those districts that have parental involvement, support and the resources to expose students to technology, labs, foreign languages, arts and other such programs provide their children with a competitive edge in post secondary education.

12. What is the relationship that your school maintains with its surrounding community?

Michigan Tech has an excellent relationship with the immediate surrounding area and the entire Upper Peninsula. They have become a driving force in economic development in the area. The University takes a leading role in some economic development programs in the Peninsula and is a collaborator with some of the other universities and organizations to help provide input and guidance.

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